

of the family
to see Danny Kaye at the Colonial
my father of course
was not included

ONE OF THEM YEARS

depending on your taste
it brought us
Betty Carter & Annie Ross
Clifford Brown
Clint Eastwood
the demise of Lon Chaney
a certain editor
who would object
at the mere hint
of his birth year
we're talking about 1930 folks
a soulful fucking year to say the least

THOSE LONG GUT-BUSTING LAUGHS

looking back
only 3 come to mind
one was a reunion
with my very first girlfriend
her husband asked if I'd been published
I must've laughed for 10 straight minutes
the answer was no
the following year
I was travelling around Florida
with a female companion who informed me
that her father used to be handsome
that did it
I was off again
the last time was around 10 years ago
when my mother said
"I don't have cancer. Yet."
it wasn't so funny
when her remark proved to be prophetic

ADVICE FROM A FATHER WITHOUT CHILDREN

find something
that you love
give it your life
& don't give two shits
about what
it might cost